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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**Mayor Wells-Armstrong's Fourth Annual African American Civic Leaders' Scholarship Update**

**Kankakee, IL** – AMITA Health St. Mary's Hospital joins the list of donors to make a donation to Mayor Wells-Armstrong's Fourth Annual African American Civic Leaders' Scholarship for 2021. President and CEO, Chris Shride, presented the check for \$1,000 on Wednesday.

"We believe it's important to invest in our youth and provide them opportunities to pursue higher education and workforce development training. We have supported multiple scholarship specific programs by donating to Bishop Mac, Miss Kankakee, Bradley-Bourbonnais, as well as, the Kankakee County Farm Bureau Foundation to name a few," said Kathy Peterson, Executive Director of Community Benefit for AMITA Health St. Mary's Hospital.

Applications are still being accepted for the scholarship through **Monday, March 1, 2021**. Up to five students will receive \$2,000 each and will be based on academics, positive leadership, extra-curricular activities, and community involvement.

"For the last three years, our community has rallied in raising funds to help remove barriers for students pursuing higher education. All applicants must participate in an interview with the scholarship committee. Once selected, the students will be recognized for their outstanding achievements during our annual event," said Mayor Wells-Armstrong.

Other contributors who have made donations so far include Art's Landscaping, ComEd, Comcast, CSL Behring, Meijer, Nexus Indian Oaks Academy, as well as private donors.

The scholarship ceremony date has been set for Wednesday, April 14, 2021.

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The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building, and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant, and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow, and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive, and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at [www.citykankakee-il.gov](http://www.citykankakee-il.gov).